

Message Text

SECRET

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13

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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R 281130Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO AMEMBASSY RABAT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6729

S E C R E T TEHRAN 4295

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MO, JO, IR

SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MOROCCO

REFS: (A) RABAT 2297, (B) STATE 055551, (C) TEHRAN 2836,

(D) RABAT 1568, (E) STATE 094155

1. REF (E) STIPULATED THAT DEPARTMENT WANTED GOI CONFIRMATION
THAT IT HAD CLEAR UNDERSTANDING WITH MOROCCO RE REPLACEMENT OF
HOWITZERS. ALTHOUGH MISUNDERSTANDING OR MISTRANSITION OF
MORTARS FOR HOWITZERS HAS BEEN CLEARED UP, THERE IS STILL A
BASIC DIFFERENCE AS TO HOW REPLACEMENT GUNS ARE TO BE PROVIDED
TO IRAN.

2. REF (B), PARA 1, SETS FORTH TWO ALTERNATIVES:

A. DIVERSION OF HOWITZERS FROM U.S. PRODUCTION LINE
FROM MOROCCO TO IRAN.

B. TRANSFER OF HOWITZERS TO IRAN AFTER MOROCCO HAS
TAKEN TITLE.

3. IRAN CHOSE FIRST ALTERNATIVE ESSENTIALLY BECAUSE IT
WOULD AVOID NEED TO OBTAIN CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION
FOR TRANSFER. (REF C).

4. MOROCCO (REF D) STATED IT WOULD DIVERT GUNS TO IRAN
"UPON DELIVERY OF HOWITZERS." IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING
THAT IRAN DOES NOT WISH TO HANDLE REPLACEMENT ON THIS
BASIS.

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5. ACCORDINGLY, WE RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY RABAT POINT OUT TO GOM ADVANTAGE OF FOLLOWING COURSE OF ACTION LAID DOWN IN REF (B), PARA 1A, AS DESIRED BY IRAN. IF GOM AGREES, INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR IN TEHRAN.
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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